

the shock of Washington insiders and even to some Members of the Democrat side, the leader of the Democrat Party in the House and the leader of the Democrat Party in the other body have announced in advance their enthusiasm for tax increases.

You heard that right, tax increases. Now, you have to admire their courage and you have to admire their daring. Middle-class families are not going to be so impressed, but lovers of expanded government, they are going to be ecstatic.

The House minority leader wants to expand Washington's control over our local schools and he wants to fund that with a tax increase on Americans. And the minority leader in the other body agrees. He said last weekend that tax increases are on the table.

I guess the Democrats really are serious when they say they are against business as usual in Washington.

FAIR CARE FOR THE UNINSURED ACT

(Mr. ARMEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, this morning I am introducing the Fair Care for the Uninsured Act. This bill would create a new refundable tax credit for the purchase of private health insurance. The credit would be \$1,000 per adult, \$3,000 per family. No mandates, no bureaucracy. Your choice of plans, your choice of doctors.

Who is this bill for? Mr. Speaker, it is for the 44 million Americans who today lack health insurance. Their ranks are growing by 100,000 people a month. A decade from now, there could be 53 million, or 60 million if the economy softens.

Who are these people without insurance? They are the working poor, low-wage workers, people between jobs, the self-employed, cleaning ladies, African Americans, and Hispanics.

In California, Mr. Speaker, nearly 40 percent of the Hispanics are uninsured. Forty percent. And why is it they cannot afford insurance coverage? Because the tax code punishes you when you buy your own insurance outside the workplace. If your employer cannot afford a plan, you are out of luck. If your job is not full time, you are out of luck. That is not fair, and it is not necessary.

If the high-paid CEO is going to receive a big tax break for health care, then should the cleaning lady not that makes minimum wage?

Mr. Speaker, nowadays Democrats seem more eager to pile new mandates onto health care insurance than to help people who do not have any, but the truth is access to affordable health coverage is the first patient protection.

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So let us protect patients by helping those 44 million get good health insurance.

ONCE AGAIN REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP TRYING TO TALK CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM TO DEATH

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, can there be any doubt now that the leadership wants to kill campaign finance reform? If my colleagues will listen closely, they can even hear the leadership trying to talk this issue to death one more time.

The leadership has ordered 2 months of hearings. Last Thursday was our first. What did we learn? Nothing, nothing that we did not learn in 15 hours of floor debate last year on the Shays-Meehan bill, a bill that passed this House by 252 to 179; nothing that we have not learned already in the 12 committee hearings on the issue since the 104th Congress.

Mr. Speaker, the time for talk has long since passed. The Americans want and expect action. We can pass the bipartisan Shays-Meehan bill right now. These hearings are a sham designed to delay actions. As our colleague, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. WAMP), observed, if we wait until September, the Senate will just run out the clock.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to sign the discharge petition to bring Shays-Meehan to the floor. Otherwise these hearings promise to be the death knell for meaningful campaign finance reform this year.

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING SUBMISSION OF AMENDMENTS ON H.R. 10, FINANCIAL SERVICES ACT OF 1999

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, first I am proud to stand next to this trophy for the 17-to-1 victory last night.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to inform the House of the Committee on Rules' plans in regard to H.R. 10, the Financial Services Act of 1999. Today I inform the House of the Committee on Rules' plans regarding this bill in a "Dear Colleague" letter which I have just sent out.

The Committee on Rules will be meeting the week of June 28 to grant a rule which may restrict the offering of amendments to the Financial Services Act of 1999.

The bill was reported by the Committee on Banking and Financial Services on March 23 of 1999 and by the Committee on Commerce on June 15, 1999.

Any Member contemplating an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and a brief explanation to the Committee on Rules up in H-312 of the Capitol no later than Tuesday, June 29, at 3 p.m.

Amendments should be drafted to the amendment in the nature of the substitute printed in the GPO Committee on Rules print which will be available to Members later today in the Com-

mittee on Rules' office. A version of the amendment in the nature of a substitute is now available on our Committee on Rules Web site. Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to assure that their amendments are properly drafted and should check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain that their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

FOSTER CARE INDEPENDENCE ACT OF 1999

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules. I call up House Resolution 221 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 221

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1802) to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to provide States with more funding and greater flexibility in carrying out programs designed to help children make the transition from foster care to self-sufficiency, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. Points of order against consideration of the bill for failure to comply with section 401(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 80 minutes, with 60 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Commerce. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. It shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Ways and Means. The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. Points of order against the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute for failure to comply with section 401(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 are waived. No amendment to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against the amendments printed in the report are waived. The Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may: (1) postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment; and (2) reduce to five minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the minimum time for electronic voting on